

**FLUID LOSS CONTROL AND SEALING AGENT
FOR DRILLING DEPLETED SAND FORMATIONS**

Abstract of the Disclosure

- 5 An oil-based drilling fluid having a polymer latex capable of providing a deformable latex film on at least a portion of a subterranean sand formation has been discovered to inhibit or control fluid loss and act as a sealing agent when used to drill in sand formations for hydrocarbon recovery operations. Typically, the polymer latex is an aqueous suspension of particles formed by emulsion
- 10 polymerization that is in turn emulsified into a hydrocarbon base fluid. The polymer particles of suitable size precipitate onto the pores of a subterranean sand formation to at least partial seal the formation with a deformable polymer film.